THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The Foreign Ministers of India, China and Russia met in Bengaluru on 27 October, 2009. The three Foreign Ministers discussed strengthening trilateral cooperation and global and regional issues during their 9th Trilateral Meeting. There was an exchange of views among the three Ministers on global issues such as UN reform, climate change and global economic governance architecture. There was also an exchange of views on developments in the region, including on Afghanistan, Iran and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

(b) It was agreed to strengthen trilateral cooperation including trilateral business interaction. The Ministers condemned terrorism and discussed measures to counter terrorism. A Joint Communiqué was issued at the end of the meeting reflecting the decisions arrived at during the meeting. No agreements were signed.

Proposal for irrigation projects

*109. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending before Government to take up irrigation projects as national projects;

(b) if so, the details of such projects, with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the action that has so far been contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) After issue of guidelines for the implementation of scheme of national projects, 10 project proposals from different States for inclusion of their projects in the scheme of national projects have been received. The status of these proposals is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The State of Andhra Pradesh has so far submitted proposals of two projects for inclusion in the scheme of national projects. These projects are Indirasagar (Polavaram) project and J. Chokkarao Lift Irrigation scheme. Status of these proposals is also given in Statement.

Statement

Status of proposals of national projects

1. **Kanher Irrigation Project (Uttar Pradesh)**

The ultimate irrigation potential of the project is 27898 ha which is less than 200000 ha and therefore project is not eligible for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

2. **Bansagar Project (Uttar Pradesh)**

The estimated cost of the project to which investment clearance has been accorded by the Planning Commission is Rs. 2053.60 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3164.40 crore. The State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance.

3. **Saryu Canal Project (Uttar Pradesh)**

The estimated cost of the project which is approved by the TAC is Rs. 2765.16 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 7330.68 crore. The State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance.

4. **Baghen Project (Uttar Pradesh)**

As per guidelines of the national projects, the *intra-state* project with irrigation potential of more than 2 lakh ha could be considered for inclusion in the scheme of national project. The Baghen project is having irrigation potential of the order of 15000 ha and therefore project is not eligible for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

5. **Rajghat Canal Project (Uttar Pradesh)**

During AIBP Review meeting taken by the Secretary (WR) on 22nd May, 2009, this project has been reported as completed.

6. **Restoration of capacity of Sharda Sahayak Canal (Uttar Pradesh)**

The project has been recommended by the CWC (FU) to CWC (HQ) for inclusion in the scheme of National Project. The latest estimated cost of the project for which investment clearance has been accorded by the Planning Commission is Rs. 319.23 crore. However, the State Government is being asked to communicate its decision regarding one of the 6 projects which it would like to be considered for inclusion in the scheme of national project. This is necessary as the inclusion of large numbers of intra-state projects of a State in the scheme of national projects will result in thin spreading of resources and thereby result in delay in completion of national projects.

7. **Rengali Project (Orissa)**

The field unit of CWC has raised some observations on the proposal of the State Government. Important observation is regarding revision of cost of the project and revised investment clearance from the planning commission. The State Government is to comply with observations of the CWC.

8. **Polavaram (Indira Sagar) Project**

The project has been cleared by the Steering Committee for inclusion in the scheme of national project. For seeking approval of the Union Cabinet, Cabinet note has been prepared and has been sent for inter-ministerial consultation.

9. **J. Chokkarao Lift Irrigation Scheme**

The estimated cost of the project to which, investment clearance has been accorded by the planning commission is Rs. 6016 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 9300 crore for which, the State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance. Further, in order to avoid thin spreading of the resources, only one project of a State is at present being considered for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

10. **Bargi Diversion Project**

The proposal submitted by the Narmada Valley Development Authority, Government of Madhya Pradesh in September, 2009 is not in accordance with the guidelines of the scheme of national projects as issued by the Ministry of Water Resources in February, 2009. The State Government has been advised to frame proposal as per guidelines.

Clearance for Kochi Metro Rail Project

*110. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:
SHRI P.R. RAJAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government on the Kochi Metro Rail Project;

(b) if not, the reason for not giving approval to the project;

(c) whether his Ministry has formulated any specific guidelines and criteria for sanctioning of the Metro project; and

(d) whether the Planning Commission has given clearance for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Normally projects having high traffic demand of 20,000 peak hour peak direction traffic (PHPDT) or more and which will have sufficient operational sustainability are considered, if duly supported by Comprehensive Mobility Plan and an Alternatives analysis.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Development of sports in rural areas

*111. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any programme for the promotion and development of games and sports in rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of policies and programmes framed by Government for the purpose?